“Creating Opportunities for Temporary Foreign Workers: Innovation in Capacity Building and Skills Transfer in Latin America”

UNITAR Labour Migration seminar, Oct. 3rd 2008
### Canadian Context

**Demand for TFWs increasing**

- Shift from a focus on family reunification to the economic/temporary labour categories
- By the end of 2006, Canada overtook the U.S. with 171,844 TFWs, compared to 160,000
- While Quebec and Ontario still important destinations, new epicentres of demand are Alberta, B.C. and Manitoba

**Sectors under Pressure include:**

- Construction
- Tourism
- Hospitality
- Services
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- Tourism
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Objectives

1. Enhance skills and employability of workers
2. Facilitate skills transfer
3. Encourage social investment in migrant-sending communities
4. Higher entrepreneurial activity among lower-skilled migrant workers

Participants

Beneficiaries: Lower-skilled L.A. migrant workers in Canada (FTWP) - various occupations

Partners: FOCAL, Connexion, IOM Geneva

Regional IOM Missions: Mexico, El Salvador, Colombia, Ecuador and Honduras

Potential funders: IDB (Multilateral Investment Bank) Government/Employers
Policy Framework “ALERT”

A  Access to training and education
L  Leveraging remittances
E  Engaging communities
R  Reciprocity
T  Transparency
Co-development

“International migration constitutes an ideal means of promoting co-development, [...] the coordinated or concerted improvement of economic conditions in both areas of origin and areas of destination based on the complementarities between them.”

## Project Methods

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<th>Innovative project design emphasizes learning activities at all 3 stages of migration:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Pre-departure</td>
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<td>b) During work contract abroad</td>
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<td>c) Post-return</td>
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<th>Three Opportunity areas:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1) On-site training</td>
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<td>2) Additional courses</td>
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<td>3) Social investment at home</td>
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| Participatory structure also ensures that nature and degree of project participation is voluntary. |
Value Added of our Model?

- Ecuador / Spain
- Brazil (ie. Dekassegui IDB project)
- MIDA (Focus on Diaspora)

- Inclusion of ongoing training and education as components of bilateral labour framework
- Linkages on a collective and transnational level ie. Collective fundraising projects
- Transparency / E-platform
  - KIVA
- Canada’s TFWP model
Long-term Results

a) Channel social and economic entrepreneurial spirit of individuals towards local economic development

b) Capacity building of civil society by developing a cohesive network of migrant support in both source & destination

c) Policy coherence
Thank-You!

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